## PERFORMANCE NOTES

1. Because a massive sound is required for this piece, as many instruments as desired may be used for each part. Additional instruments that may be available which are not in the score can be added to an appropriate part - e.g. Soprano Saxophone can play a Clarinet in B flat part, Contrabassoon can play in octaves with the Bassoon as can Contrabass Clarinet with Bass Clarinet 2.

with Bass Clarinet 2.

2. Unless "solo" is written, all players to a part should play. Where there are 2 parts sharing a stave (e.g. Flutes, Oboes, Clarinets in B flat 2 and 3) and only one line is written, all play unless 1°, 2° or 3° is specifically indicating.

3. In the score, all transposing instruments (except Piccolo) are notated at concert pitch.

4. TIMPANI: 4 are required, tuned to: G, B flat, c, d flat. If 4 are not available, and 2 pedal Timpani are used instead, play the last two notes of 240 as a quaver c.

5. PERCUSSION: Player 1. Small suspended cymbal, 2 tuned Wine-Bottles, Xylophone, Headless Tambourine.

Player 2. Medium-small suspended cymbal, 2 tuned Wine Bottles, Xylophone, Headless Tambourine.

Player 2. Medium-small suspended cymbal, 2 tuned Wine Bottles, Xylophone, Headless Tambourine.
Player 3. Medium-large suspended cymbal, 2 tuned Wine Bottles, Glockenspiel, Headless Tambourine, Snare Drum Player 4. Large-suspended cymbal, 2 tuned Wine-Bottles, Marimbaphone, Headless Tambourine, Tenor Drum, Bass Drum, Tam-Tam.

The full percusion requirement is therefore: — 4 different sized suspended cymbals (1 smallest — 4 largest); 8 Wine Bottles, 2 Xylophones, 1 Glockenspiel, 1 Marimbaphone, 4 Tambourines, Snare, Tenor, and Bass Drums, Tam-Tam.

The bottles are struck with metal beaters, and are tuned by means of varying levels of water as follows: — Player 1: e<sup>r</sup>, a<sup>r</sup>, Player 2: b<sup>r</sup>, f<sup>r</sup>, Player 3: g<sup>r</sup>, d<sup>r</sup>, Player 4: e<sup>r</sup>, c<sup>r</sup>. It will be found that for the c<sup>r</sup>, d<sup>r</sup>, e<sup>r</sup>, d<sup>r</sup>, and g<sup>r</sup>, a 1·5 litre bottle will produce the best sound. The other 3 notes can be obtained from ordinary wine (or whisky) bottles.

## PROGRAMME NOTES

The title comes from a jotting in Coleridge's notebook during the period when he was working on *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* and is a reference to a passage which the poet had read in the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society. This was a letter from a Father Bourzes, of which the pertinent paragraph reads: 'I shall add on Observation more concerning *Marine Rainbows*, which I observed after a great Tempest off of the Cape of Good Hope. The Sea was then very much tossed, and the Wind carrying off the Tops of the *Waves* made a kind of Rain, in which the Rays of the *Sun painted the Colours of a Rainbow*'. (Italies and capitals in original). It is this evocative description which provided the stimulus for this composition and influences the feeling and atmosphere of its sound-world.

The basic structural design is carried by a progression of 8 chords heard in a slow introduction above a pedal bass note. These chords are then heard in pairs in ever-increasing density until a massive full band climax presents the chord sequence in its entirety together with a melodic fragment which fits each pair of chords. Annunciatory chords and a repeat of the slow introduction at twice the speed lead to a new section based on the melodic fragment and its inversion accompanied by running semiguavers. The annunciatory chords return, softly

and its inversion accompanied by running semiquavers. The annunciatory chords return, softly this time and with an accompaniment of melodic percussion. This leads to a slow, static section with block chords and faint reminiscences of earlier material; this gradually leads back

section with block chords and faint reminiscences of earlier material; this gradually leads back to a varied recapitulation and an exultant Coda.

Unlike many pieces of Wind-Band (scores of which I studied since this is my first composition in this medium) there is very little doubling of notes. The band is subdivided into a set of ensembles as follows: the Piccolo and 2 Flutes, the low Clarinets, the 3 Cornets and the 3 Trumpets form 4 trios. The 2 Oboes, Cor Anglais and Bassoon, the high Clarinets, the 4 Saxophones and the 4 French Horns form 4 quartets, while the 3 Trombones, Euphonium and Tuba form a quintet. Each percussion player is often temporarily 'attached' to one of these smaller ensembles, a good example being the opening build-up of the pairs of chords after the slow introduction. In the Coda, the Band is divided into 3 rhythmically independent groups. Each percussionist has a Tambourine. While one of them maintains a steady reference beat, the other 3 are each attached to one of the Band groups which results in a kaleidoscopically rhythmic ending. rhythmic ending.



© Copyright 1984 Novello & Company Limited, 8/9 Frith Street, London W1V 5TZ, England Printed and distributed by Studio Music Company, 77-79 Dudden Hill Lane, London NW10 1BD, England All Rights Reserved Wind Band score - ISMN: M-050-03112-3 Printed in Great Britain











